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Relief of certain Indian agents. Letter from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting a communication from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs setting forth the claims of certain Indian agents for pay for a part of their terms of service, heretofore suspended by the accounting officers of the Treasury Department in the settlement of their accounts, together with a draught of a bill for their relief

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RELIEF OF CERTAIN INDIAN AGENTS.

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L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

TRANSMITTING

*A communication from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs setting forth the claims of certain Indian agents for pay for a part of their terms of service, heretofore suspended by the accounting officers of the Treasury Department in the settlement of their accounts, together with a draught of a bill for their relief.*

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MARCH 25, 1890.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
Washington, March 24, 1890.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a communication from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs setting forth the claims of certain Indian agents for pay for a part of their terms of service, heretofore suspended by the accounting officers of the Treasury Department, in the settlement of their accounts, together with a draft of a bill for their relief.

The matter is submitted for appropriate action by Congress.

Very respectfully,

JOHN M. NOBLE,  
Secretary.

THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
Washington, March 10, 1890.

SIR: I have the honor to invite the attention of the Department to the fact that for the reasons given below, in each case, the accounting officers of the Treasury Department refuse to allow the Indian agents named, pay for a part of their terms of service:

Charles E. McChesney was appointed by the President during a recess of the Senate to be agent for the Indians of the Cheyenne River Agency in Dakota, November 13, 1885, at a salary of \$1,500 per annum.

The Senate afterwards confirmed this appointment to take effect August 2, 1886, but Agent McChesney failed to execute an official bond under said confirmation until September 3, 1886. In the meantime, Congress adjourned August 5, 1886.

In view of these facts it is held that he ceased to be agent on the evening of August 5, 1886, and did not again become an officer of the Government until September 3, 1886, and his pay has been withheld from August 6 to September 2, 1886, both dates inclusive, amounting to \$114.13.

W. W. Anderson was appointed agent for Crow Creek and Lower Brule Agency, Dakota, December 3, 1885, at a salary of \$1,800 per annum. His appointment was subsequently confirmed to take effect August 4, 1886, but he failed to execute an official bond under said confirmation until September 1, 1886, consequently his pay from August 6 to August 31, 1886, both dates inclusive has been disallowed, amounting to \$127.18.

Israel Green was appointed agent for Sisseton Agency, Dakota, October 21, 1885, at a salary of \$1,500 per annum, which appointment was not confirmed during the next session of the Senate. He was again appointed under date of August 9, 1886, under which last appointment he filed an official bond dated August 26, 1886; consequently his pay for the period from August 6 to August 25, 1886, both dates inclusive, has been disallowed, amounting to \$81.52.

John V. Summers was appointed agent for Quapaw Agency, Ind. T., September 25, 1885, at a salary of \$1,500 per annum, which appointment was subsequently confirmed to take effect June 16, 1886, but he failed to execute a bond under said confirmation until August 18, 1886, and his pay from August 6 to August 17, 1886, both dates inclusive, has been disallowed, amounting to \$48.91.

Charles H. Potter was appointed agent for the Omaha and Winnebago Agency in Nebraska, August 7, 1885, at a salary of \$1,600 per annum. This appointment was not confirmed, and no further action was taken in his case until he was relieved by his successor November 1, 1886. Therefore his salary from August 5 to and including October 31, 1886, is disallowed, amounting to \$378.26.

Dolores Romero was appointed agent for the Pueblo Agency in New Mexico, June 9, 1885, at a salary of \$2,000 per annum.

This appointment was not confirmed nor was any further action taken in his case until he was relieved by his successor September 13, 1886; the salary of the position having been reduced in the meantime to \$1,800 per annum, to take effect July 1, 1886. His salary is therefore disallowed from August 6 to September 12, 1886, both dates inclusive, amounting to \$185.87.

John B. McClane was appointed agent for Grand Ronde Agency, in Oregon, November 5, 1885, at a salary of \$1,000 per annum, which appointment was not confirmed. He was again appointed agent August 9, 1886, but failed to execute a bond until September 3, 1886. Therefore his pay is disallowed from August 6 to September 2, 1886, both dates inclusive, amounting to \$76.09.

Thomas M. Jones was appointed agent for Shoshone Agency, in Wyoming, to take effect September 9, 1885, at a salary of \$1,500 per annum. This appointment was not confirmed, but he was reappointed August 9, 1886. He did not execute his bond under the second appointment until October 1, 1886. Therefore his pay from August 6 to September 30, 1886, both dates inclusive, has been disallowed, amounting to \$228.26.

Jason Wheeler was appointed agent for Warm Springs Agency, Oregon, July 25, 1885, at a salary of \$1,000 per annum, which appointment was not confirmed, but he was reappointed August 9, 1886, under which last appointment he did not execute an official bond until September 8, 1886. Therefore his pay from August 6 to September 7, 1886, both dates inclusive, is disallowed, amounting to \$89.67.

W. Levin Powell was appointed agent for Neah Bay Agency, Wash., September 25, 1885, at a salary of \$1,000 per annum, which appointment was not confirmed, and he was subsequently reappointed August 9, 1886. He failed to execute a bond, however, under the latter appointment until October 1, 1886. Therefore his pay from August 6 to September 30, 1886, has been disallowed, amounting to \$152.18.

Mark W. Stevens was appointed agent for Mackinac Agency in Michigan, September 25, 1885, at a salary of \$1,000 per annum, which appointment was confirmed August 2, 1886. He failed, however, to execute a new bond under said confirmation until August 24, 1886. Therefore his pay from August 6 to August 23, 1886, both dates inclusive, has been disallowed, amounting to \$48.91.

Bartholomew Coffey was appointed November 24, 1885, to be agent for Umatilla Agency in Oregon, at a salary of \$1,200 per annum, which appointment was not confirmed. He was reappointed August 9, 1886, but did not execute a bond under the latter appointment until August 27, 1886. Therefore his pay from August 6 to August 26, 1886, both dates inclusive, has been disallowed, amounting to \$68.47.

Benjamin P. Moore was appointed agent for Colville Agency, Wash., July 29, 1885, at a salary of \$1,500 per annum, which appointment was not confirmed. He was reappointed August 6, 1886, but failed to execute a bond under the latter appointment until September 30, 1886. Therefore his pay from August 6 to September 29, 1886, has been disallowed, amounting to \$224.18.

It is not denied that these officers remained under all the responsibilities and continued to faithfully discharge the duties of their respective positions during the time for which their pay has been disallowed, and it would undoubtedly be in the nature of inflicting hardship upon them to deprive them of their pay on merely technical grounds and for no fault of theirs, the interests of the Indians and of the Government having been carefully protected by them. I therefore respectfully recommend that the necessary steps be taken toward obtaining relief for them from Congress, for which purpose I will inclose with this a draught of a bill to be submitted to that body if it meets with your approval, and which, if it becomes law, will enable the Treasury Department to allow them credit in the settlement of their accounts for the various sums disallowed.

Respectfully,

T. J. MORGAN,  
*Commissioner.*

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

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A BILL to authorize the accounting officers of the Treasury Department to allow certain credits in the settlement of the accounts of Indian agents.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the accounting officers of the Treasury Department are hereby authorized and directed to allow credit in settlement of the accounts of the following-named Indian agents for the amounts stated below:

To Charles E. McCheaney, United States Indian agent for the Indians of the Cheyenne River Agency in Dakota, for pay for his services from August sixth to Septem-

ber second, eighteen hundred and eighty-six, both dates inclusive, one hundred and fourteen dollars and thirteen cents.

To W. W. Anderson, United States Indian agent for the Indians of the Crow Creek and Lower Brule Agency in Dakota, for pay for his services from August sixth to August thirty-first, eighteen hundred and eighty-six, both dates inclusive, one hundred and twenty-seven dollars and eighteen cents.

To Israel Green, United States Indian agent, for the Indians of the Sisseton Agency in Dakota, for pay for his services from August sixth to August twenty-fifth, eighteen hundred and eighty-six, both dates inclusive, eighty-one dollars and fifty-two cents.

To John Van Meter Summers, United States Indian agent for the Indians of the Quapaw Agency in the Indian Territory, for pay for his services from August sixth to August seventeenth, eighteen hundred and eighty-six, both dates inclusive, forty-eight dollars and ninety-one cents.

To Charles H. Potter, United States Indian agent for the Indians of the Omaha and Winnebago Agency in Nebraska, for pay for his services from August sixth to October thirty-first, eighteen hundred and eighty-six, both dates inclusive, three hundred and seventy-eight dollars and twenty-six cents.

To Dolores Romero, United States Indian agent for the Indians of the Pueblo Agency in New Mexico, for pay for his services from August sixth to September twelfth, eighteen hundred and eighty-six, both dates inclusive, one hundred and eighty-five dollars and eighty-seven cents.

To John B. McClane, United States Indian agent for the Indians of the Grand Ronde Agency in Oregon, for pay for services from August sixth to September second, eighteen hundred and eighty-six, both dates inclusive, seventy-six dollars and nine cents.

To Thomas M. Jones, United States Indian agent for the Indians of the Shoshone Agency in Wyoming Territory, for pay for services from August sixth to September thirtieth, eighteen hundred and eighty-six, both dates inclusive, two hundred and twenty-eight dollars and twenty-six cents.

To Jason Wheeler, United States Indian agent for the Indians of the Warm Springs Agency in Oregon, for pay for his services from August sixth to September seventh, eighteen hundred and eighty-six, both dates inclusive, eighty-nine dollars and sixty-seven cents.

To W. L. Powell, United States Indian agent for the Indians of the Neah Bay Agency in Washington Territory, for pay for his services from August sixth to September thirtieth, eighteen hundred and eighty-six, both dates inclusive, one hundred and fifty-two dollars and eighteen cents.

To Mark W. Stevens, United States Indian agent for the Indians of the Mackinac Agency in Michigan, for pay for his services from August sixth to August twenty-third, eighteen hundred and eighty-six, both dates inclusive, forty-eight dollars and ninety-one cents. To Bartholomew Coffey, United States Indian agent for the Indians of the Umatilla Agency in Oregon, for pay for his services from August sixth to August twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and eighty-six, both dates inclusive, sixty-eight dollars and forty-seven cents. To Benjamin P. Moore, United States Indian agent for the Indians of the Colville Agency in Washington Territory, for pay for his services from August sixth to September twenty-ninth, eighteen hundred and eighty-six, both dates inclusive, two hundred and twenty-four dollars and eighteen cents.